

## EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS



### 96th RRC - "Stewards of the Environment"

"*Deadeye Pride*" continues to shine as the **96<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command (RRC)** continues its role as good "*Stewards of the Environment*" celebrating Army Earth Day three years running.

On Friday, 20 April, soldiers from the **146<sup>th</sup> TRANS CO, 172 MED BN, and 321st EN BN** participated together with 105 third grade students from the Mountain View Elementary School in a tree planting activity at the newly constructed/renovated **Frank M. Browning USARC** in Ogden, UT.

As has become tradition, the activity began when students were met at the school by our soldiers and the local Community

Forester. Students were taught the importance of preserving our earth's natural resources and allowed ample time to question our soldiers on topics of their choice.

Upon arrival at the facility, both the soldiers and students were instructed on proper tree planting by the Community Forester. Twenty trees of differing deciduous varieties were planted by the students and soldiers that day, followed by the traditional "yellow ribbon ceremony" honoring our soldiers in "harms way".

On Monday, 23 April, soldiers from the **5502 USARH**, followed suit and held their tree planting activity with approximately 30

Leadership Council students from the North Middle School at the **William T. Fitzsimons USARC** in Aurora, CO. Back by popular demand, Mr. Keith Wood with the Colorado State Forest Service was also available to provide assistance.

Nineteen Red Maple trees were planted this day, along with a few shrubs, and one special rose bush saved from a nearby demolition activity. This in turn was followed by a "yellow ribbon ceremony".

Also carrying on with last year's tradition, each of the activities included a MRE lunch with our soldiers, and hands-on viewing of a staged "static" equipment area.

Even though there is much work to be done, there is always ample time for a little "fun in the sun." As an innocent bystander of these activities I am always happy to see the one-on-one interaction that takes place between our soldiers and the students. I've witnessed first hand soldiers marching their students in formation, I've listened to the "G" rated versions of army cadence, and I've watched from afar the physical ritual of numbered push-ups (usually done in "sound-off" mode).

In closing, Army Earth Day came and went this year with the usual hustle and bustle to "get the job done." And once again, I found myself moved by the display of excitement shared by all during each of the activities. The 96<sup>th</sup> RRC has been blessed by the willing participation from our local communities, interested peers, and the dedication from our soldiers to make our Earth Day activities successful each year!!

*Article by Christine Velasquez - 96<sup>th</sup> RRC*



Soldiers from the **146<sup>th</sup> TRANS CO, 172 MED BN, and 321st EN BN** participated together with 105 third grade students from the Mountain View Elementary School



Soldiers from the **5502 USARH** held their tree planting activity with approximately 30 Leadership Council students from the North Middle School



The PRReserver Newsletter is a functional bulletin authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1 for members of the United States Army Reserve Command (USARC). It is published quarterly by the USAR Environmental Division to provide the Total USAR Environmental Community with information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Environmental Division of the U.S. Army Reserve. This publication has a circulation of 500 printed copies and an internet access point.

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The HQ 9<sup>th</sup> RRC Display - Earth Day's E-Man once again completes a successful mission.



American Samoa - SGT Doris Pulu (8285th PSD, Team B) and her son Darin enjoy the Earth Day display.



Celebrating Earth Day in American Samoa - Fa'afetai Lava (Thank You Very Much) to PV2 Reid and PV2 Fala from 8285th Team A for distributing the gifts.

## 9<sup>th</sup> RRC - "Seeking Good for the Land"

From Alaska to Guam, American Samoa to Saipan, and throughout the Hawaiian Islands, The Pride of the Pacific celebrated Earth Day 2007 with a cultural sensibility. "Imi Pono no ka 'Aina" translated *Seeking Good for the Land* was the headline for **HQ 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command** (9<sup>th</sup> RRC) Earth Day exhibit which covered four environmental program areas. The 9<sup>th</sup> RRC Command supported a message of mission sustainability through conservation and resource use reduction, with highlights of our energy program, affirmative procurement, and sustainable development. Kahauiki Stream Cleanup Day preceded Earth Day by several weeks, followed by post clean up on Ft Shafter Flats.

The display boards incorporated environmental programs with Hawaiian ecosystem concepts, providing patrons with an introduction of Pacific island ecological heritage. Hawaiian customs and practices demonstrate the belief that all portions of the land and environment are related, like members of an extended family. Each environmental zone is named, and their individual attributes were known. For example, terms "ahupua'a" *watershed*, and "mālama" *mindfulness* all stem from a Pacific Island tradition of "mālama ka 'āina" respect for the land from "mauka" mountains to "makai" ocean. This cultural appreciation for the fragile Hawaiian ecosystem allowed for 9<sup>th</sup> RRC Hawai'i residents to associate Hawai'i's culture with an environmental consciousness the 9<sup>th</sup> RRC strives to promote.

The Environmental Management System site acted as the official promoter of 9<sup>th</sup> RRC Earth Day activities. Through much encouragement and inspiration, children of Army Reserve personnel provided art and other creative pieces to display.

To promote the purchase and use of recycled products at all facilities throughout the command, the display was entirely made of recycled material and the Green Purchasing presentation made available. We also provided energy and water saving techniques for the home, free gifts and handouts (printed on 100% recycled paper) all of which contributed to a wonderful and creative Earth Day display.

*Article by Amanda Barbier - 9<sup>th</sup> RRC*



Thank you to Amber Van Ravenstein, Daughter of MAJ Edward Van Ravenstein for this winning picture.





Photo left: Cub scout pack #9 carry away a dead tree as part of clean-up



Photo right: Everyone helps in planting the Arbor Day tree

## Fort Dix Celebrates "Earth Day is for the Birds"

On April 20 and 21, the Environmental Division of **Fort Dix**, helped the Fort Dix community celebrate Earth Day by providing educational programs and work projects to allow over 350 people come closer to their earth. The event was filled with many presenters that covered a wide

variety of topics on the importance of birds to our environment. New Jersey Endangered Species program biologist Larissa Smith talked about the return of the Bald Eagle; Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge gave a live bird presentation; local naturalists led educational walks; a

ceremonial Arbor Day tree planting was held with all reciting the Earth Day pledge and the day ended with the Natural Resources staff presenting the newest of their "Woodland Creatures" puppet show, "Return of the Birds".

*Article by Roger Smith - Fort Dix*



Earth Day fun with Sara Jackson and students at Roy Allen Elementary School.

## Army Reserve Office - "Back to School"

Earth Day at Roy Allen Elementary school this year was a blast! The celebration began with a roughly two hour session with Mrs. Hammer's third grade class. The kids were excellent—they listened intently as I described the history of Earth Day, the Army Reserve environmental program, and things that they can do at home to help keep our environment healthy. The group asked many questions and participated in several fun activities, which included a recycling activity, activity books, and story time. Each student received a "goody packet" that included an eco-friendly chocolate bar, a Frisbee, pens and pencils, seeds, potting soil, and a metal planter. The kids also competed for prizes in a word jumble exercise in which they were asked to create as many words as possible using the letters "E-N-V-I-R-O-N-M-E-N-T."

Mrs. Rodgers' kindergarten class was equally delightful. Our theme was loosely based around bugs and the role that they play in the environment. The kids were each given a wind-up bug to race. Winners from this event, as well as other contests, received prizes such as coloring books and insect toys. We had story time and shared ideas about what we can all do to help save the environment. The class also participated in a recycling event and received goody packets similar to those given to the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.

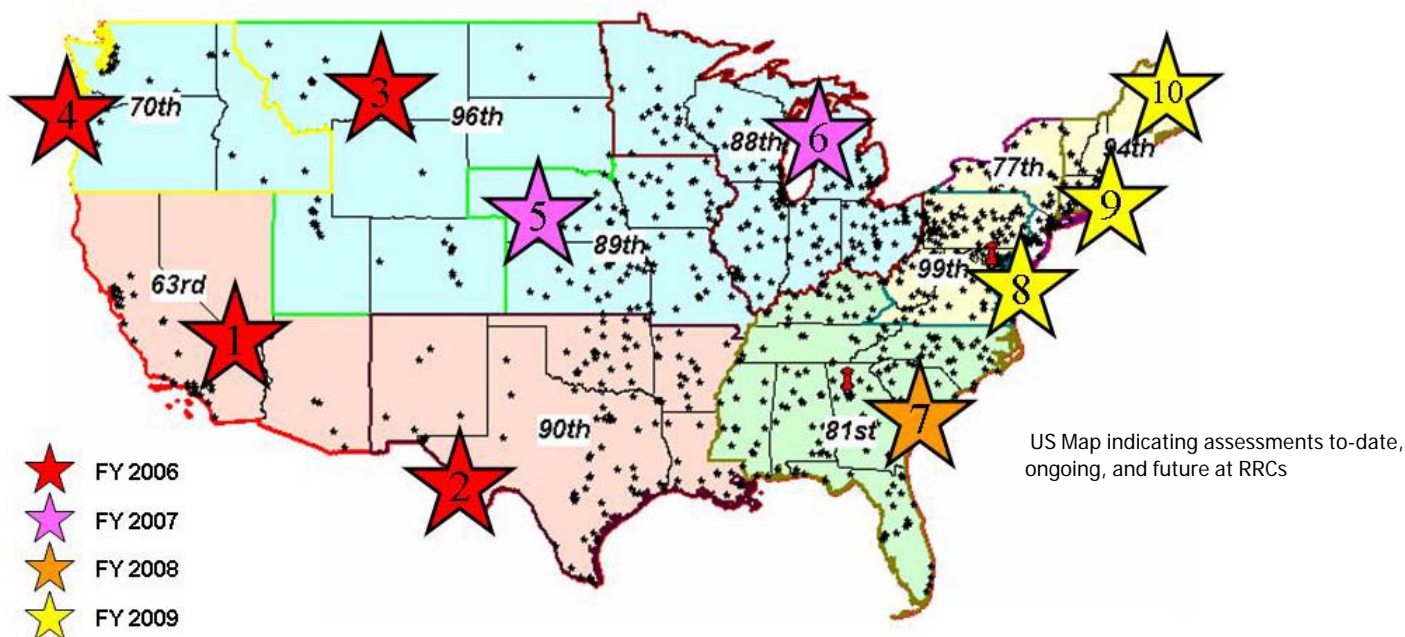
Both classes were given the opportunity to vote for a species to adopt in their class name at the Brevard Zoo. The third graders chose to adopt the red wolf, while the kindergarten class adopted the otter. In addition to the animal adoptions, ten Lodgepole pines and Douglas firs per class will be planted in the Gallatin National Forest through a donation program run by the National Arbor Day Foundation.

All leftover goodies and promotional items were given to the school's Science Lab to be used for prizes and incentives.

*Article by Sara Jackson - IMCOM-ARO*



Third graders learn the fun of recycling.



## Transformation of the EPAS Program and EMS

Significant changes are happening in the Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) Program. These changes are important to the current phase of Environmental Management System (EMS) implementation at US Army Reserve (USAR) installations and Regional Readiness Commands (RRCs). The USAR successfully met the requirements for the first set of DoD EMS Metrics; however, a new set of EMS Metrics includes the requirement to conduct annual EMS audits (either internal or external audits). The Federal implementing instructions for Executive Order (EO) 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*, also require the Army to conduct EMS audits. To meet these requirements, the *US Army Reserve EPAS Implementation Plan for Regional Readiness Commands (RRCs)* incorporates external EMS audits.

The USAR is in the middle of its efforts to implement an EMS. As part of this process, many commands have requested external EMS audits to verify conformance to those elements of the ISO 14001:2004 EMS standard that are implemented. Once a command has fully implemented the standard and self-declares conformance, the Federal implementing instructions for EO 13423 require external EMS audits to be conducted at least every three years. In addition, both the ISO 14001:2004

standard and Army Regulations require evaluation of compliance with environmental regulations. This compliance evaluation is performed under the EPAS Program.

Concurrent to EMS implementation progress, the EPAS Program for the USAR has been undergoing major changes in strategy and execution that is beginning to align with EMS implementation. This transformation will meet the requirements of both initiatives in the area of EMS auditing and compliance evaluation. The Installation Management Command-Army Reserve (IMCOM-AR) began a 100% baseline environmental performance assessment of all USAR centers in FY 06. This effort is being accomplished by a combination of contracted vendors and the US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM).

To date, the assessments of the 63d and 90th RRCs were completed in FY 06, and the 70th and 96th RRCs were completed earlier this FY. The 88th and 89th RRC assessments are ongoing. By the end of this FY, the future 63d and 88th Regional Readiness Sustainment Command (RRSC) footprints will be complete, encompassing all CONUS centers west of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The 81st RRC assessment will occur in FY 08, and the 99th RRSC assessment will

happen in FY 09, after the RRC-to-RRSC transformation (See the map above).

All Reserve external EMS audits were conducted by USACHPPM, and were initially executed and funded independent of the USAR's EPAS Program. Under the current plan, EMS external audits are an integral part of the EPAS planning and budgeting process. To date, twelve Reserve commands (RRCs and installations) have had a total of sixteen external EMS audits conducted (four commands have had a second EMS audit).

This overall effort will not only afford the current RRC (and future RRSC) commanders a complete picture of their environmental compliance status, but will also provide the required EMS audits for the commands. The EMS audits are an essential step along the road to the Army's mandate for full ISO 14001 conformance by the end of FY 09.

The RRC/RRSC commanders are not the only group to benefit from these assessments and audits. The USAR, with assistance from IMCOM-AR, has begun to analyze the data being accumulated in order to seek programmatic fixes for systemic findings. The hope is that, through both environmental media and root cause analyses, we will find a more economical approach to correcting findings. This will hopefully both lower our risk and extend our limited resources.

*Article by Stan Mitchell and  
Roc Tschirhart - IMCOM-ARO*

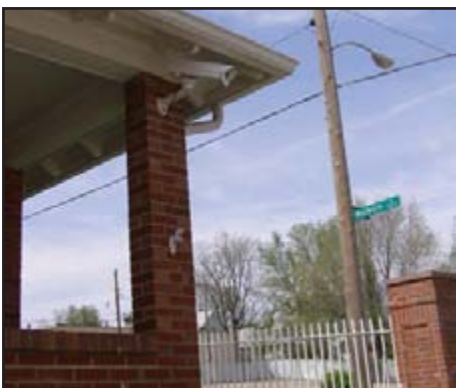




Camera and warning signs on west wall of Building 18. Note the graffiti on the bottom of wall.



Cameras and warning sign on exterior wall on northeast corner of facility



Camera on Building 4 by front gate



## We'll be watching you...

### The 89th RRC's creative solution to stop graffiti

O.K., maybe you can see that there are no wires coming out of some of the cameras, if you look close enough. But maybe the flashing LED lights make you stop and think. Maybe the signs warning that there are cameras on the premises are enough to make you walk on.

One of the facilities in the **89<sup>th</sup> Regional Readiness Command** had been hit by graffiti. The facility is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and the north wall and one of the buildings had been spray painted several times, so it was time to do something to discourage or eliminate this criminal activity.

The business across the street had been hit by graffiti several times, but after installing fake cameras and warning signs they had not been hit again. So we thought we would try it also.

After coordinating with the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office, they agreed that installing fake cameras would not adversely effect the historic property. We installed six cameras and eight warning signs, being careful with the installation so that they could be removed without much damage. So for around \$1300 total we bought fake cameras and warning signs, and had them installed on three buildings on the north and west sides of the facility, and on the facility's exterior wall in April 2007.

We hope our tactic works. Future articles will inform you whether it worked or not.

*Article by Kate Ellison - 89<sup>th</sup> RRC*

### More Facts:

- ▶ Graffiti cleanup takes a big chunk out of municipal budgets. The city of San Jose spends about \$3 million a year fighting graffiti, Minneapolis, MN about \$4 million, and \$2 million in Portland, OR.
- ▶ Graffiti is the most common type of property vandalism (35%) according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

*Source: graffitihurts.org*

## Solutions in the Field

A few examples of the Low Impact Development design strategies the 99th RRC is using at new and renovated facilities in Maryland

*Provided by John Pontier - 99th RRC*



Rock trench level spreader (area in right of above photo) converts concentrated runoff from parking lot to sheet flow and disperses it uniformly to infiltration area (area in center of above photo)



Two dry grassed swales along fence line reduce peak discharge volume and provide quality treatment by facilitating infiltration. Rip-rap provides inflow and outlet grade stabilization.



Three below-grade dry wells function as infiltration systems used to control runoff from building rooftop.



Sand filters treat parking lot runoff before discharge to storm drains.

## Successful Pest Management Workshop in early 2007



The workshop attendees ascend to higher knowledge in Charleston, SC.

The U.S. Army Reserve conducted a Pest Management Workshop at the Embassy Suites in downtown Charleston, South Carolina during the week of January 29 - February 2, 2007. The workshop provided instruction to 25 attendees who either inspect contracts where pesticides are applied or are involved with, or provide oversight of, pest management operations.

The workshop was developed in accordance with the standard for Pest Management Quality Assurance Evaluators and Installation Pest

Management Coordinators, as defined in DoD Instruction 4150.7-M.

Upon conclusion of the workshop, an examination was administered and training critiques were provided for completion. The written examination served as an important tool in determining how well we covered the material. We are happy to report that *everyone passed* the examination with only one person coming even close to the 70% pass/fail limit. This was a good indication that attendees retained much of the information covered and learned some useful guidance during the workshop. Based on test results, accreditation certificates have been issued and are currently being prepared for distribution and final award by respective Commands.

*Article by Mel Marks - IMCOM-ARO*